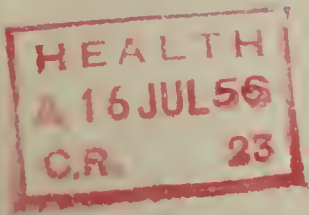


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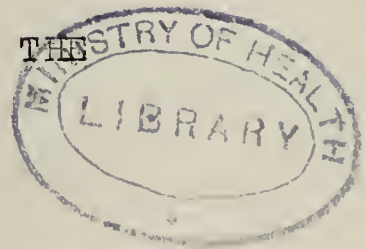


BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

A N N U A L R E P O R T

For the Year 1955

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE
AUTHORITY



(a) Part time M.O.H.

G. Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector

Charles Jeffries, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
to the Borough of Tiverton.
For the year ended 31st December, 1955.

II, St. Peter Street,
Tiverton.

June, 1956.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1955.

Area. Although the Borough covers an area of 17,680 acres, the Town itself covers 300 acres only.

Population. Estimated 11,560.

Inhabited Houses. Number in 1955 was 3,437.

Rateable Value is £85,228.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate. £336.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live (Legitimate	194	92	102	) Birth Rate: 17.4 per 1000
Births (Illegitimate	8	4	4	
Still (Legitimate	2	1	1	) Rate per 1000 Births 9.9 (Total Live and Still Births)
Births (Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Corrected Birth Rate.	17.7 per 1000			
Deaths...	164	87	77	) Death Rate: per 1000 13.1 11.1 per 1000
Corrected Death Rate.	...	...	...

Deaths from Pregnancy and Childbirth, 0; Puerperal Sepsis, 0; other causes, 0.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age. (4) All infants per 1000 live births, 19.7

Illegitimate infants under 1 year, Nil.

Deaths from Measles ... Nil.

" " Whooping Cough ... Nil.

" " Diarrhoea... Nil.

Deaths from Cancer, 23

Breast	-	Male	-	Female	3
Stomach-		"	3	"	1
Lung	-	"	2	"	1
Other	}	"	8	"	5
Sites)					
			<u>13</u>		<u>10</u>

This is 2 less than the previous year.

Cancer Notification. In July of this year a form of cancer notification was introduced into the district, its object being to assist the S. Western Regional Cancer Bureau in their programme of cancer registration. Notifications are received by me and then transmitted to the bureau.

The scheme has worked satisfactorily but, of course, numbers are small and it is hoped that neighbouring districts will eventually join in to make the scheme of practical value to the bureau.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

- (1) Nursing in the Home. No change.
- (2) Domiciliary Midwifery is carried out by the two district nurses.
- (3) Laboratory Facilities. There are two in the Area - The County Laboratory and that connected with the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.
- (4) Hospitals. Post Hill Hospital has now 30 medical convalescent beds Aged Sick. The Belmont Hospital, Tiverton, with 100 beds is the chief hospital for this purpose, but cases are frequently sent to other chronic sick hospitals in the County owing to the great shortage of beds for these cases. Considerable hardship has occurred during the year both from delay in admission and also due to the fact that patients are compelled to accept vacancies in hospitals remote from their relatives. Infectious cases are sent to Whipton Isolation Hospital where accommodation is always adequate.

Tiverton and District Hospital deals with Surgical, Medical and Maternity cases. There are 50 beds, 11 of which are devoted to Maternity cases. Bookings are carried out by the County Medical Officer.

Exeter City Hospital - formerly entirely for aged sick is now taking a proportion of acute surgical and medical cases from this district.

An Ante-natal Clinic is held every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. at the Tiverton and District Hospital.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Tiverton and District Hospital twice monthly.

- (5) Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. None in the Area.
- (6) Ambulance Facilities. No change.

(7) Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

Minor Ailments Clinic. Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m.
Dr. Proctor-Sims and Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Remedial Exercise Clinic. Wednesdays 11 - 12 a.m.
Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Ophthalmic Clinic. 2nd Tuesdays in alternate months commencing January etc. Dr. Foxwell in attendance.
By appointment.

Speech Therapy Clinics. Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m.
Miss Chapman, Speech Therapist, in attendance.

School Dental Service. Emergency treatment
Wednesdays 9 - 12.30 a.m. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
Other days by appointment.
Mr. Mathews (Part time). Newly appointed.
Orthopontic treatment by Mr. Peacock by appointment.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. This Centre is open weekly on Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

The attendances for 1955 were as follows:-

Total infants attending for first time	74
" children, 1 to 5 years, attending for first time..	12
Number on Register at end of year - Mothers	286
" " " " " " " - Infants	74
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years	213
Number of attendances during 1955 - Mothers	1221
" " " " " " " - Infants	887
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years	412

The Mothers and Children have had supervision and advice both at the Welfare weekly by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitor, and in their houses by the Health Visitor. Simple treatment has been given where considered sufficient, in other cases the mothers were referred to their private doctor for treatment.

Home Help Service. Cases dealt with during the past year were:-

Old Age/Chronic Sick	T.B.	Maternity	Others.
38	Nil.	1	Nil.

Cases are dealt with direct through Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in conjunction with the W.V.S. Some Maternity cases in the area are dealt with direct by the District Nurses.

The Orthopaedic Clinic was held on 52 Tuesdays during the year - Appointments are made by the Secretary, Miss Waterworth, and this works very well.

contd./ Table-overleaf

Number on Register, 1/1/55	...	...	...	...	304
" " " 31/12/55	...	...	...	...	267
Sessions held by Surgeons 48; After care Sister 28.					76
New Cases	...	...	...	...	386
Discharges	...	...	...	...	423
Admitted to Hospital	...	...	...	...	60
Average weekly attendance	...	...	...	...	25.6
Number of Attendances	...	...	...	...	1379
Admissions: Adults	...	...	...	...	327
School Age	...	...	...	...	31
Infants	...	...	...	...	28
					386

Some of the elder patients have been trained at St. Loyes's College for the Disabled, in connection with the Clinic, the aim being the complete rehabilitation of the patients.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Scabies. Non reported during the year.

Diphtheria Immunization. Vaccination procedure administered by County Council and a Clinic is held for this purpose on each Wednesday. The majority of cases are dealt with by local doctors at their surgeries. The percentage of children immunised continues to be highly satisfactory.

Primary immunizations 188. Reinforcing immunizations 232.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1955.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925).
No action taken.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES

DEATHS

Age Period.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
40	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
50	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
60	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	1	1	2	Nil	1	1	Nil

Notifiable Diseases.

Age Incidence.

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pnuemonia	Erysipelas
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 2	-	-	-	-	-
3 to 4	1	-	-	-	-
5 to 9	4	-	-	-	-
10 to 14	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	1	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	-	-	-	-	-
40 to 65	-	-	-	3	-
65 and over	-	-	-	1	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	1	-
Totals	6	Nil	Nil	5	Nil

Age Period	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic/Non	Acute Encephalitis Infective Post Infective	Food Poisoning
Under 1 year	2	3	-	-	-
1 to 2	29	15	-	-	-
3 to 4	30	19	-	-	-
5 to 9	65	24	-	-	-
10 to 14	1	2	-	-	-
15 to 24	1	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	1	1	-	-	-
40 to 65	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	2	2	-	-	-
Totals	131	66	Nil	Nil	Nil

Public Health Act, 1925. No action taken.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the Borough of Tiverton

1st January to 31st December, 1955.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Town Hall, Tiverton.
June, 1956.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Tiverton Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my tenth Annual Report in connection with duties carried out during the year 1955.

Slum Clearance. During the year the Slum Clearance Sub-Committee, under the Chairmanship of Aldermen Ford, carried out a survey of 223 houses, which brought the Total number of houses included in Clearance and Improvement Areas up to 467.

Of this number, it is proposed to deal with 139 houses within a five year period, 74 within 10 years, and 39 within 15 years, making a total to be ultimately cleared of 252.

It is proposed to deal with 131 houses as incapable of repair at a reasonable cost and 84 houses as capable of repair at a reasonable cost.

Meat and Food Inspection. Following my usual practice, I again carried out ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection of all animals at the Council's abattoir, a total of 3596 animals. Approximately 5 tons of meat and offal was condemned as unfit for human consumption. The percentage of animals affected with Tuberculosis is slightly lower than for the previous year and is low compared with the figures for the country as a whole.

73 Visits were paid to food premises and approximately 1 ton. of foodstuffs condemned and destroyed.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply.

- (1) The water supply for the Town has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations have been made at regular monthly intervals of the treated water going into supply. Water from the Allers supply (source springs at Norwood Common, supplemented by pumping from River Exe) is both filtered and chlorinated. Water from the Warnicombe supply is only chlorinated.
- (3) The waters have no plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) No contamination during year.
- (5) The number of dwelling houses in the Borough and population supplied from public mains are 3,272 houses, 11,203 population. The water is piped in direct to approximately 2,783 houses, whilst approximately 489 houses are supplied by means of stand pipes. These latter houses being situated principally in Courts. A further 165 houses, population 357 are without piped supplies.

RESULTS OF SAMPLING

<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>No. of Samples.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Allers Public Main.	15	14	1
Warnicombe Public Main.	15	14	1
Withleigh Proposed Council Houses.	6	1	5
Farms and Other Premises.	20	1	19
A further 2 samples were obtained and submitted for Chemical examination.			

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MEAT AND FOODS

589 Visits of Inspection were made to the Council's Abattoir for the purpose of Meat Inspection. Ante-mortem is a regular feature of the meat inspection service.

The following table shows the numbers of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the year and gives details of meat and offal condemned as diseased or unsound:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	635	35	97	931	1898
Number Inspected..	"	"	"	"	"
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	3	2	28	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	324	23	5	30	43
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	51%	74.28%	7.21%	6.22%	2.37%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	1	-	-	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	1	-	-	89
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.... ..	1.7%	5.71%	-	-	4.84%

<u>BEEF</u>			
<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>	
2	Septicaemia.	1107	
<u>1</u>	John's Disease.	<u>362</u>	
3		1469 lbs.	
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>			
2	Dropsy.	58	
<u>1</u>	Oedema.	<u>60</u>	
<u>1</u>	Injury.	<u>85</u>	
4		203 lbs.	
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	3059 lbs.	
<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>BEEF - Tuberculosis</u>		
3	Generalised T.B.	1665 lbs.	
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>			
6	Tuberculosis.	315 lbs.	
<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	423 lbs.	
Total Weight of BEEF Condemned. I ton. 12 cwts. 2 qrs. 12 lbs.			
" " " OFFAL " I " II " 0 " 10 "			

<u>CALVES</u>			
<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight.</u>	
I	Septicaemia.	48	
<u>I</u>	Badly Bled.	<u>60</u>	
<u>2</u>		<u>108</u>	
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>			
I	Actimonycosis.	9	
<u>2</u>	Injury.	<u>22</u>	
<u>3</u>		<u>31</u>	
<u>Offal.</u>	Various.	28	
Total Weight of VEAL Condemned. I cwt. 0 qr. 27 lbs.			
" " " OFFAL " I " 0 "			

SHEEP

<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
4	Entero Toxaemia.	188
2	Pregnancy Toxaemia.	118
3	Septicaemia.	200
5	Inflammation.	301
1	Septic Metritis.	56
1	Jaundice.	43
1	Gangrenous Pneumonia.	53
7	Emaciation & Diseased.	283
1	Septic Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	75
1	Badly Bled.	54
1	Acute Fever.	56
2	Traumatic Injuries.	95
<u>29</u>		<u>1522 lbs.</u>
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>		
2	Abscesses.	10
1	Arthritis.	2
2	Bruising.	39
1	Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	16
1	Traumatic Injuries.	35
1	Injuries.	14
<u>8</u>		<u>116 lbs.</u>
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	274 lbs.
Total Weight of MUTTON Condemned. 14 cwts. 2 qrs. 14 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " 2 " 1 " 22 "		

PIGS

<u>No. of Carcases</u>		
1	Acute Peritonitis.	310
1	Pyæmia.	133
<u>2</u>		<u>443 lbs.</u>
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>		
2	Dropsy.	40
1	Arthritis.	3
1	Abscess.	32
2	Oedema.	42
1	Septic Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	43
<u>7</u>		<u>160 lbs.</u>
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	130 lbs.

<u>PIGS - Tuberculosis.</u>		
<u>No. of Carcasses</u>		<u>Weight</u>
2	Generalised T.B.	220
<u>Parts of Carcasses</u>		
66	Tuberculosis.	1246
<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	84
Total Weight of PORK Condemned. 18 cwts. 1 qr. 25 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " 1 " 3 " 18 "		

73 Visits made to shops for the purpose of inspection and condemnation of Unsound Food and premises inspected for contravention of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

The following is a list of food condemned:-

<u>Description</u>		<u>Weight</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Weight</u>
		lbs.			lbs.
Tinned	Meat.....	401		Br/fd.	1581
	Meat.....	314	Sausages.....		5
	Ham.....	157 $\frac{1}{4}$	Meat Pies.....		4
	Soup.....	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	Fish Cakes.....		2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Vegetables.....	213 $\frac{1}{4}$	Fish.....		140
	Fruit.....	355 $\frac{3}{4}$	Fish.....		10
	Fish.....	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cheese.....		184 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Milk.....	83	Sweets.....		14
"	Dog Food.....	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	Biscuits.....		7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cr/fd.		<u>1581</u>	Jars	Total.	<u>1949</u>

Total Weight of Food Condemned.		17 cwts.	1 qr.	17 lbs.
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MILK REGULATIONS

Licences for the retailing of Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised Milk have been issued to the following:-

Mrs. Richards, Park Street Dairy.
 Mr. R. E. Thomas, Slough Dairy.
 Mr. W. H. Brealey, Luxton's Dairy, 2A West Exe North.
 Mr. P. Hooper, The Fountain Dairy.

FACTORIES IN DETAIL.			INSPECTION.		
Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6) (7)
(i) Factories in which Sec. I, 2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	23	14	7	Nil	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	90	Nil	Nil	Nil	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	16	5	Nil	Nil	
Totals	129	19	7	Nil	

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars		Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
		Found	Remedied	Referred -			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness.		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Overcrowding.		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Unreasonable temperature.		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Inadequate ventilation.		"	"	"	"	"	
Ineffective drainage of floors.		1	1	"	"	"	
Sanitary Conveniences							
(a) insufficient		3	3	"	"	"	
(b) unsuitable or defective		Nil	Nil	Nil	"	"	
(c) not separate for sexes		"	"	"	"	"	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)		2	2	"	"	"	
Total		6	6	"	"	"	

OUTWORK

Number of Out-workers requires by Sect. IIO.

Class I ... 22
 " 3 ... 15
 " 29 ... 13

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR	
Drainage Inspections and Tests...	287
Factories Act...	19
Food Shops re Condemned Food	73
Food & Drugs Act	13
Shops Act...	3
Slaughterhouse..	589
Dairies ...	10
Rodent Control..	26
Council's Points Scheme:- Inspections	199
Re-Visits..	69
Allocation.	97
Water Samples taken:- Public Mains..	36
Other Premises & Farms.	20
Chemical...	2
Ice Cream..	2
Caravans...	19
Pets Animals Act	1
Explosives Licensing)	8
Petroleum "	
Disinfection, Disinfestation	49
Inspections re. Complaints..	151
Re-Visits..	188
Infectious Diseases...	-
Keeping of Animals	2
Slum Clearance Inspections & Revisits	629
Improvement Grants	101
Miscellaneous...	7
Total.	2600

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

46 Licences were re-issued for the storage of 31,540 gallons of Petroleum Spirit, 340 gallons Petroleum Mixtures, and 270 gallons Cellulose Thinners.

8 inspections were made and advice given on installation of storage tanks.

1 Licence re-issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium.

EXPLOSIVES ACT, 1875.

29 applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives.

29 Certificates of Registration were granted.

RODENT CONTROL

Mr. Luxon carried out systematic inspections of the various premises in the Borough including 242 agricultural properties and 584 business properties.

A total of 70 treatments were carried out in the area.

The gin trap again proved its worth and has been largely instrumental in keeping the built up area of the Town free from rats.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES JEFFRIES, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
Borough Sanitary Inspector

